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Checklist of lizards and amphisbaenians of Argentina: an update

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Abstract

We update the list of lizards of Argentina, reporting a total of 261 species from the country, arranged in 27 genera and 10 families. Introduced species and dubious or erroneous records are discussed. Taxonomic, nomenclatural and distributional comments are provided when required. Considering species of probable occurrence in the country (known to occur in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Paraguay at localities very close to the Argentinean border) and still undescribed taxa, we estimate that the total number of species in Argentina could exceed 300 in the next few years.

Key words: Reptiles, *Liolaemus*, *Phymaturus*, South America, list

Resumen

Actualizamos la lista de lagartijas de la Argentina, presentamos un total de 261 especies para el país, organizados en 27 géneros y 10 familias. Especies introducidas, registros dudosos o erróneos son discutidos. Comentarios taxonómicos, nomenclaturales o de distribución son incorporados si son requeridos. Considerando especies de probable existencia en nuestro país (que se encuentran en Bolivia, Brasil, Chile y Paraguay en localidades muy cercanas al límite con Argentina) y taxas aún no descriptos, estimamos que el número total de especies en Argentina puede exceder las 300 en los próximos años.

Palabras clave: Reptiles, *Liolaemus*, *Phymaturus*, America del Sur, Lista

Introduction

The Republic of Argentina, situated in the southernmost portion of the South American Continent, occupies over 2.791.810 km² not including the Antarctic territory (www.ign.gob.ar). The country ranges from subtropical areas (21°46’ S) to subantartic regions (55°03’S), extending latitudinally over about 3,400 km, and about 1,400 km wide at its widest point. It possesses significant latitudinal and altitudinal variation (33° of latitudinal range), and heights from Bajo de San Julian in Santa Cruz province at 105m below sea level, up to Aconcagua Mountain at 6.959 m above sea level; as well as two gradients of physical variation, extending in north-south and east-west directions. Argentina presents a wide range of climates and soil types, being one the countries with greatest diversity of biogeographical units and ecosystems, including three main bioregions, Southern South America, Eastern South America, and the Central Andes, and 18 different ecoregions (Dinerstein *et al*. 1995). This diversity of environments harbors a high variety of lizard species, a few with large geographic distributions but the majority are endemic to Argentina; and a high number of species with restricted geographic distributions.

Since Cei’s (1986; 1993) monographs on the reptiles of Argentina, there has been a remarkable growth in the number of researchers working on lizards of the country, and a corresponding increase in knowledge of the lizard herpetofauna. Avila *et al.* (2000) presented an updated checklist as part of a categorization of lizards and amphisbaenians, but the species number has continued to grow markedly, particulary in the genera *Liolaemus* and

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Phymaturus. Many new species have been described, and the definition of many species and the taxonomic status and nomenclature of others have changed. This prompted an elaboration of a new list presented at the VII Congreso Argentino de Herpetología that took place in Corrientes city in 2006 (Avila *et al*. 2006a). This list was quickly out-of-date, thus we continued gathering information for the publication of an updated list that was first published in the Web (Avila *et al*. 2011a), and a more updated version is presented here. In both checklists we try to summarize all new information available since Avila *et al*. (2000), and the cut-off date for this report is 21 January 2013. As Rivas *et al*. (2012) point: "Checklists are dynamic and should be considered as a still frame in time that has no lasting value, only showing the state of knowledge at a peculiar moment. Reports of new species, synonymisations and elevation of old synonyms to specific status, clarification of prior mistakes and new data about species distributions rapidly change our knowledge of biological diversity in tropical countries". Although the list will surely continue to grow during the next months and years, we consider it appropriate to present an updated publication that can be used by the scientific community as well as by those dedicated to conservation and natural resources management.

Material and methods

Information was updated from the last review (Avila *et al.*, 2000) with additions of new published information and reviews (total or partial) of specimens deposited in the following collections: LJAMM-CNP (Luciano Javier Avila Mariana Morando Herpetological Collection, Centro Nacional Patagónico, Puerto Madryn, Argentina), MACN (Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Buenos Aires, Argentina), CENAI/CHINM (Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Iologicas/Coleccion Herpetologica Instituto Nacional de Microbiologia, now deposited in Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Buenos Aires, Argentina), MLP (Museo de La Plata, La Plata, Argentina), JMC-DC (Jose Miguel Cei—Diagnostic Collection, Universidad Nacional de San Luis, Argentina), MVZ (Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, USA), MCZ (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard, USA), KU (Natural History Museum, Kansas University, Lawrence, USA), FMNH (Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, USA), BYU (Monte L. Bean Life Science Museum, Brigham Young University, Provo, USA), FML (Fundación Miguel Lillo, San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina), IMCN-UNSJ (Instituto y Museo de Ciencias Naturales, Universidad Nacional de San Juan, Argentina), NMNH (National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, USA), MHN (Museo de Historia Natural de San Rafael, Argentina), IADIZA-CH (CCT-Mendoza-CONICET, Mendoza, Argentina), MHN-SR-H (Museo Provincial de Ciencias Naturales Florentino Ameghino, Santa Fe, Argentina), IBA-UNC (Instituto de Biología Animal, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina), UNRC-ZV (Universidad Nacional de Río Cuarto, Río Cuarto, Argentina), UNNE (Universidad Nacional del Nordeste, Corrientes, Argentina), RVP (Relevamiento de Vertebrados de La Pampa, Museo de Ciencias Naturales de La Pampa, Santa Rosa, Argentina). We gathered published information that included new species descriptions and/or geographic distributions, and included of these in the References section (we assume that bibliography published before 2,000 was already included in that publication). Information taken from bibliographic sources can be ordered into three main categories:

a) Revisionary studies of specific genera or species complexes, including: *Diplolaemus* (Cei *et al*. 2003; Victoriano *et al*. 2010), *Liolaemus* and/or *Phymaturus* (Abdala 2007a; Avila *et al*. 2006b; Morando *et al*. 2003, 2004, 2007, 2008; Lobo & Quinteros 2005a,b; Pincheira-Donoso *et al*. 2008, Breitman *et al*. 2011a, 2012), *Pristidactylus* (Cei *et al*. 2001), *Stenocercus* (Torrez-Carvajal 2007), and *Urostrophus* and *Anisolepis* (Etheridge & Williams 1991);

b) Checklists of some species/subspecies complexes and new geographic citations, including: *Ameiva ameiva* (Cabrera 2002), *Amphisbaena plumbea* (Avila *et al*. 2007a), *Anisolepis grillii* (Alvarez 2000), *A. longicauda* (Waller 2009), *Cnemidophorus lacertoides* (Federico 2000; Pérez & Grassini 2001), *C. longicauda* (Pérez & Petracchi 2004, Frutos *et al*. 2005), *C. serranus* (Pérez *et al*. 2004; Arias & Lobo 2005), *C. tergolaevigatus* (Cabrera & Etheridge 2006), *Diplolaemus darwinii* (Ibargüengoytía & Schulte 2001), *Homonota andicola* (Acosta & Blanco 2001), *H. fasciata* (Pérez *et al.* 2008; Etchepare *et al*. 2011), *H. underwoodi* (Pérez *et al*. 2005), patagonian *Liolaemus* (Avila *et al*. 2001; 2004a), *L. chiliensis* (Christie 2002a), *L. bibronii* (Pérez & Pérez 2001), *L. buergeri* (Abdala & Robles 2007), *L. ditadai* (Abdala 2007b), *L. donosobarrosi* (Abdala & Juarez 2006), *L. fitzgeraldi* (Acosta *et al*. 2000, Avila 2004), *L. fitzingerii* (Avila *et al*. 2007b), *L. goetschi* (Nori *et al*. 2010a), *L.*

grosseorum (Avila *et al*. 2002), *L. hermannunezi* (Abdala & Quinteros 2007), *L. inacayali* (Avila *et al*. 2006c), *L. josei* (Frutos *et al*. 2008), *L. laurenti* (Abdala *et al*. 2007), *L. lentus* (Pérez & Avila 2011), *L. lineomaculatus* (Ibargüengoytía *et al*. 2001, Christie 2002b), *L. loboi* (Abdala & Lobo 2006a), northwestern *Liolaemus* (Díaz Gómez 2007), *L. olongasta* (Sanabria *et al*. 2005), *L. petrophilus* (Avila *et al*. 2006c), *L. pictus* (Avila *et al*. 2006c), *L. pseudoanomalus* (Avila *et al*. 2003a), *L. punmahuida* (Avila & Pérez 2006), *L. puritamensis* (Quinteros & Abdala 2007), *L. riojanus* (Acosta & Murua, 2000), *L. silvanae* (Abdala & Díaz Gómez, 2001), *L. somuncurae* (Avila *et al*. 2007c), *L. tenuis* (Christie & Sage 2002), *L. umbrifer* (Abdala & Lobo 2007), *L. uspallatensis* (Buff *et al*. 2001), *L. xanthoviridis* (Minoli & Avila 2011a), *L. yanalcu* (Lobo & Lobo, 2003), *L. wiegmannii* (Parraga 2011), *Aspronema dorsivittatum* (Williams & Kacoliris 2011), *Ophiodes intermedius* (Herrera *et al*. 2001), *Phymaturus verdugo* (Abdala & Juarez 2007; Avila *et al*. 2007d), *Pristidactylus achalensis* (Salas *et al*. 2004), *Pristidactylus nigroiugulus* (Avila *et al*. 2003b; Minoli & Avila 2011b), *Teius suquiensis* (Cabrera & Monguillot 2007), *Tupinambis rufescens* (Acosta & Gomez 2000), and *Vanzosaura rubricauda* (Aguirre & Céspedes 2001).

c) Citations included in descriptions of new species (see new species in Table 2), including: Abdala (2002, 2003, 2005a,b), Abdala and Díaz Gómez (2006), Abdala and Lobo (2006b,c), Abdala and Quinteros (2008), Abdala *et al*. (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012a,b), Avila (2003), Avila *et al*. (2003c, 2004b, 2007e, 2008, 2009, 2010a,b, 2011b, 2012a,b,c, 2013), Breitman *et al*. (2011b, c), Cabrera and Monguillot (2006), Cabrera (2012), Corbalán *et al*. (2009), Espinoza *et al*. (2000), Espinoza and Lobo (2003), Quinteros (2012), Quinteros *et al*. (2008a,b), Laspiur *et al*. (2007), Lobo and Espinoza (2004), Lobo and Abdala (2007), Lobo *et al*. (2010a, 2012a,b,c), Martínez *et al*. (2011), Martinez Oliver and Lobo (2002), Monguillot *et al*. (2006), Montero and Cespedez (2002), Nori *et al*. (2010b), Pincheira-Donoso and Scolaro (2007), Pincheira-Donoso *et al*. (2007), Quinteros and Abdala (2011), Scolaro and Cei (2003), Scolaro and Cei (2006), Scolaro and Ibargüengoytía (2007), Scolaro *et al*. (2008), Scolaro and Ibargüengoytía (2008), Scolaro and Tappari (2009), Scolaro and Pincheira-Donoso (2010), Scolaro *et al*. (2012), Vega *et al*. (2008).

Publications of lists of species inhabiting some protected natural areas, geographic units, or selected phytogeographic regions, like Chaco National Park (Céspedez *et al*. 2001), Patagonia (Scolaro 2005, 2006), chacoan Mar Chiquita (Briguera *et al*. 2005), all National Parks (Chebez *et al*. 2005), Impenetrable Great Chaco (Kacoliris *et al*. 2006a), Buenos Aires coastal dunes (Kacoliris *et al*. 2006b), San Guillermo Reserve San Juan (Acosta *et al*. 2007), oriental Chaco (Alvarez *et al*. 2009), Ischigualasto Provincial Park (Sanabria & Quiroga 2009), small private reserves as in Scrocchi and Giraudo (2005), Lopez and Kubisch (2008), Lopez and Prado (2008), or checklists of political geographic units of Argentina, as San Luis province (Avila & Carrizo 2003; Guerreiro *et al*. 2005), Entre Ríos province (Gimenez *et al*. 2008), Mendoza province (Corbalán & Debandi 2008), Córdoba (Cabrera 2009), Chaco, Formosa and Corrientes (Alvarez *et al*. 2002), Río Negro province (Scrocchi *et al*. 2010; Pérez *et al*. 2011), Misiones (Lopez & Prado 2012), La Rioja (Cruz *et al*. 2012); general books such as Chebez (2008, 2009) were used only when they included voucher information.

For the genera and species we follow the classification used by Townsend *et al*. (2011) for iguanians, Gamble *et al*. (2008) for gekkos, Hedges and Conn (2012) for skinks, and for all other lizards, Vitt and Caldwell (2009). We do not include introduced species in the tables or list, but we comment about the species registered for Argentina below. We also present species names and their known geographic distributions in tables by provinces (Table 1); we use a "?" when the species was cited and not registered again, or if we have doubts about the presence of the species in the province. We do not discuss nomenclatural or systematic status that are well developed in other publications, the validity of species names, and any higher taxonomic rank above family, since lizard classification has been under debate during the last years and a consensus has not been reached yet. Comments about some species are made in the appropriate sections.

Results

Results are presented as a species checklist, in a table (Table 1), and a map (Fig. 1) with the presence of each species by province, and a table (Table 2) showing the differences with the previous Checklist of Avila *et al*. (2000).

FIGURE 1. Map showing the number of species of lizards and amphisbaenians in each province of Argentina; in brackets, number of lizards / amphisbaenians. BA = Buenos Aires, CA = Catamarca, Cha = Chaco, CO = Cordoba, CH = Chubut, COR = Corrientes, ER = Entre Rios, FO = Formosa, JU = Jujuy, LP = La Pampa, LR = La Rioja, ME = Mendoza, MI = Misiones, NQ = Neuquen, RN = Rio Negro, SA = Salta, SJ = San Juan, SL = San Luis, ST = Santa Cruz, SF = Santa FE, SE = Santiago del Estero, TF = Tierra del Fuego, TU = Tucuman.

Checklist

Polychrotidae Fitzinger, 1843

Polychrus Cuvier, 1817

Polychrus acutirostris (Spix, 1825)

Leiosauridae Frost *et al*., 2001

Anisolepis Boulenger, 1885
Anisolepis grillii Boulenger, 1891
Anisolepis longicauda (Boulenger, 1891)
Urostrophus Duméril & Bibron, 1837
Urostrophus gallardoi Etheridge & Williams, 1991
Diplolaemus Bell, 1843
Diplolaemus bibronii Bell, 1843
Diplolaemus darwinii Bell, 1843
Diplolaemus leopardinus (Werner, 1898)
Diplolaemus sexcinctus Cei, Scolaro & Videla, 2003
Pristidactylus Fitzinger, 1843
Pristidactylus achalensis (Gallardo, 1964)
Pristidactylus araucanus (Gallardo, 1964)
Pristidactylus casuhatiensis (Gallardo, 1968)
Pristidactylus fasciatus (D´Orbigny & Bibron, 1837)
Pristidactylus nigroiugulus Cei *et al*., 2001
Pristidactylus scapulatus (Burmeister, 1861)
Leiosaurus Duméril & Bibron, 1837
Leiosaurus bellii Duméril & Bibron, 1837
Leiosaurus catamarcensis Koslowsky, 1898
Leiosaurus jaguaris Laspiur, Acosta & Abdala, 2007
Leiosaurus paronae (Peracca, 1897)

Tropiduridae Bell, 1843

Stenocercus Duméril & Bibron, 1837
Stenocercus caducus (Cope, 1862)
Stenocercus doellojuradoi (Freiberg, 1944)
Stenocercus marmoratus (Duméril & Bibron, 1837)
Stenocercus pectinatus (Duméril & Bibron, 1837)
Stenocercus roseiventris D'Orbigny in Duméril & Bibron, 1837
Tropidurus Wied, 1824
Tropidurus etheridgei Cei, 1982
Tropidurus melanopleurus Boulenger, 1902
Tropidurus spinulosus (Cope, 1862)
Tropidurus torquatus (Wied-Neuwied, 1820)

Liolaemidae Frost *et al*., 2001/Liolaemini Schulte *et al*., 2004

Liolaemus (Wiegmann, 1834)
Liolaemus abaucan Etheridge, 1993
Liolaemus abdalai Quinteros, 2012
Liolaemus albiceps Lobo & Laurent, 1995
Liolaemus andinus Koslowsky, 1895
Liolaemus anomalus Koslowsky, 1896
Liolaemus antumalguen Avila, Morando, Pérez & Sites, 2010
Liolaemus araucaniensis Müller & Hellmich, 1932
Liolaemus archeforus Donoso-Barros & Cei, 1971

Liolaemus austromendocinus Cei, 1974
Liolaemus avilae Breitman, Parra, Pérez & Sites, 2011
Liolaemus azarai Avila, 2003
Liolaemus baguali Cei & Scolaro, 1983
Liolaemus bibronii (Bell, 1843)
Liolaemus bitaeniatus Laurent, 1984
Liolaemus boulengeri Koslowsky, 1898
Liolaemus buergeri Werner, 1907
Liolaemus burmeisteri Avila, Pérez, Medina, Sites & Morando, 2012
Liolaemus calchaqui Lobo & Kretzschmar, 1996
Liolaemus camarones Abdala, Díaz Gómez & Heredia, 2012
Liolaemus canqueli Cei, 1975
Liolaemus caparensis Breitman, Pérez, Parra, Morando, Sites & Avila, 2012
Liolaemus capillitas Hulse, 1979
Liolaemus casamiquelai Avila, Pérez, Morando & Sites, 2010
Liolaemus cazianiae Lobo, Slodki & Valdecantos, 2010
Liolaemus ceii Donoso-Barros, 1971
Liolaemus chacabucoense Nuñez & Scolaro, 2009
Liolaemus chacoensis Shreve, 1948
Liolaemus chaltin Lobo & Espinoza, 2004
Liolaemus chehuachekenk Avila, Morando & Sites, 2008
Liolaemus chiliensis (Lesson, 1830)
Liolaemus chillanensis Müller & Hellmich, 1932
Liolaemus chlorostictus Laurent, 1991
Liolaemus choique Abdala, Quinteros, Scrocchi & Stazzonelli, 2010
Liolaemus cinereus Monguillot, Acosta, Cabrera & Villavicencio, 2006
Liolaemus coeruleus Cei & Ortíz, 1983
Liolaemus crepuscularis Abdala & Díaz Gómez, 2006
Liolaemus cuyanus Cei & Scolaro, 1980
Liolaemus cuyumhue Avila, Morando, Pérez, & Sites, 2009
Liolaemus cyaneinotatus Martinez, Avila, Pérez, Pérez, Sites & Morando, 2011
Liolaemus cyanogaster (Duméril & Bibron, 1837)
Liolaemus darwinii (Bell, 1843)
Liolaemus diaguita Abdala, Quinteros, Arias, Portelli & Palavecino, 2011
Liolaemus dicktracyi Espinoza & Lobo, 2003
Liolaemus ditadai Cei, 1983
Liolaemus donosobarrosi (Cei, 1974)
Liolaemus dorbignyi Koslowsky, 1898.
Liolaemus duellmani Cei, 1978
Liolaemus dumerili Abdala, Semhan, Moreno-Azocar, Bonino, Paz & Cruz, 2012
Liolaemus eleodori Cei, Etheridge & Videla, 1983
Liolaemus elongatus Koslowsky, 1896
Liolaemus escarchadosi Scolaro & Cei, 1997
Liolaemus espinozai Abdala, 2005
Liolaemus exploratorum Cei & Williams, 1984
Liolaemus famatinae Cei, 1980
Liolaemus fitzgeraldi Boulenger, 1899
Liolaemus fitzingerii (Duméril & Bibron, 1837)
Liolaemus flavipiceus Cei & Videla, 2003
Liolaemus gallardoi Cei & Scolaro, 1982
Liolaemus goetschi Müller & Hellmich, 1938
Liolaemus gracielae Abdala, Acosta, Cabrera, Villavicencio & Marinero, 2009

Liolaemus gracilis (Bell, 1843)
Liolaemus gravenhorsti (Gray, 1845)
Liolaemus griseus Laurent, 1984
Liolaemus grosseorum Etheridge, 2001
Liolaemus gununakuna Avila, Morando, Pérez & Sites, 2004
Liolaemus halonastes Lobo, Slodki & Valdecantos, 2010
Liolaemus hatcheri Stejneger, 1909
Liolaemus heliodermis Espinoza, Lobo, & Cruz, 2000
Liolaemus hermannunezi Pincheira-Donoso, Scolaro & Schulte II, 2007
Liolaemus huacahuasicus Laurent, 1985
Liolaemus huayra Abdala, Quinteros & Espinoza, 2008
Liolaemus inacayali Abdala, 2003
Liolaemus inti Abdala, Quinteros & Espinoza, 2008
Liolaemus irregularis Laurent, 1986
Liolaemus josei Abdala, 2005
Liolaemus kingii (Bell, 1843)
Liolaemus kolengh Abdala & Lobo, 2006
Liolaemus koslowskyi Etheridge, 1993
Liolaemus kriegi Müller & Hellmich, 1939
Liolaemus laurenti Etheridge, 1992
Liolaemus lavillai Abdala & Lobo, 2006
Liolaemus lemniscatus (Gravenhorst, 1838)
Liolaemus lentus (Gallardo, 1966)
Liolaemus lineomaculatus (Boulenger, 1885)
Liolaemus loboi Abdala, 2003
Liolaemus magellanicus (Hombron & Jacquinot, 1847)
Liolaemus mapuche Abdala, 2002
Liolaemus martorii Abdala, 2003
Liolaemus melanops Burmeister, 1888
Liolaemus montanezi Cabrera & Monguillot, 2006
Liolaemus montanus Koslowsky, 1898
Liolaemus morandae Breitman, Parra, Pérez & Sites, 2011
Liolaemus morenoi Etheridge & Christie, 2003
Liolaemus multicolor Koslowsky, 1898
Liolaemus multimaculatus Duméril & Bibron, 1837
Liolaemus neuquensis Müller & Hellmich, 1939
Liolaemus nigriceps (Philippi, 1860)
Liolaemus olongasta Etheridge, 1993
Liolaemus orientalis Müller, 1924
Liolaemus orko Abdala & Quinteros, 2008
Liolaemus ornatus Koslowsky, 1898
Liolaemus pagaburoi Lobo & Espinoza, 1999
Liolaemus parvus Quinteros, Abdala, Díaz Gómez & Scrocchi, 2008
Liolaemus petrophilus Donoso-Barros & Cei, 1971
Liolaemus pictus argentinus Müller & Hellmich, 1939
Liolaemus poecilochromus Laurent, 1986
Liolaemus pseudoanomalus Cei, 1981
Liolaemus puelche Avila, Morando, Pérez & Sites, 2007
Liolaemus pulcherrimus Laurent, 1992
Liolaemus puna Lobo & Espinoza, 2004
Liolaemus punmahuida Avila, Pérez & Morando, 2003
Liolaemus puritamensis Nuñez & Fox, 1989

Liolaemus purul Abdala, Semhan, Moreno-Azocar, Bonino, Paz & Cruz, 2012
Liolaemus pyriphlogos Quinteros, 2012
Liolaemus quilmes Etheridge, 1993
Liolaemus rabinoi (Cei, 1974)
Liolaemus ramirezae Lobo & Espinoza, 1999
Liolaemus riojanus (Cei, 1979)
Liolaemus robertmertensi Hellmich, 1964
Liolaemus rothi Koslowsky, 1898
Liolaemus ruibali Donoso-Barros, 1961
Liolaemus sagei Etheridge & Christie, 2003
Liolaemus salinicola Laurent, 1986
Liolaemus sanjuanensis Cei, 1982
Liolaemus sarmientoi Donoso Barros, 1973
Liolaemus saxatilis Avila, Acosta, Martori & Cei, 1992
Liolaemus scapularis Laurent, 1982
Liolaemus scolaroi Pincheira-Donoso & Núñez, 2005
Liolaemus scrocchii Quinteros, Abdala & Lobo, 2008
Liolaemus senguer Abdala, 2005
Liolaemus shehuen Abdala, Díaz Gómez & Heredia, 2012
Liolaemus shitan Abdala, Quinteros, Scrocchi & Stazzonelli, 2010
Liolaemus silvanae (Donoso-Barros & Cei, 1971)
Liolaemus sitesi Avila, Olave, Perez, Perez & Morando, 2012
Liolaemus smaug Abdala, Quinteros, Scrocchi & Stazzonelli, 2010
Liolaemus somuncurae Cei & Scolaro, 1981
Liolaemus talampaya Avila, Morando, Pérez & Sites, 2004
Liolaemus tandiliensis Vega, Bellagamba & Lobo, 2008
Liolaemus tari Scolaro & Cei, 1997
Liolaemus tehuelche Abdala, 2003
Liolaemus telsen Cei & Scolaro, 1999
Liolaemus tenuis tenuis (Duméril & Bibron, 1837)
Liolaemus thermarum Videla & Cei, 1996
Liolaemus tregenzai Pincheira-Donoso & Scolaro, 2007
Liolaemus tristis Scolaro & Cei, 1997
Liolaemus tromen Abdala, Semhan, Moreno Azocar, Bonino, Paz & Cruz, 2012
Liolaemus tulkas Quinteros, Abdala, Díaz Gómez & Scrocchi, 2008
Liolaemus umbrifer Espinoza & Lobo, 2003
Liolaemus uptoni Scolaro & Cei, 2006
Liolaemus uspallatensis Macola & Castro, 1982
Liolaemus vallecurensis Pereyra, 1992
Liolaemus vulcanus Quinteros & Abdala 2011
Liolaemus wiegmannii (Duméril & Bibron, 1837)
Liolaemus xanthoviridis Cei & Scolaro, 1980
Liolaemus yanalcu Martínez Oliver & Lobo, 2002
Liolaemus zullyae Cei & Scolaro, 1996

Phymaturus Gravenhorst, 1838
Phymaturus agilis Scolaro, Ibargüengoytia & Pincheira-Donoso, 2008
Phymaturus antofagastensis Pereyra, 1985
Phymaturus calcogaster Scolaro & Cei, 2003
Phymaturus castillensis Scolaro & Pincheira-Donoso, 2010
Phymaturus ceii Scolaro & Ibargüengoytia, 2007
Phymaturus delheyi Avila, Pérez, Pérez & Morando, 2011
Phymaturus denotatus Lobo, Nenda & Slodki, 2012

Phymaturus desuetus Scolaro & Tappari, 2009
Phymaturus dorsimaculatus Lobo & Quinteros, 2005
Phymaturus etheridgei Lobo, Abdala & Valdecantos, 2010
Phymaturus excelsus Lobo & Quinteros, 2005
Phymaturus extrilidus Lobo, Espinoza, Sanabria & Quiroga, 2012
Phymaturus felixi Lobo, Abdala & Valdecantos, 2010
Phymaturus gynechlomus Corbalán, Scolaro & Debandi, 2009
Phymaturus indistinctus Cei & Castro, 1973
Phymaturus laurenti Lobo, Abdala & Valdecantos, 2010
Phymaturus mallimaccii Cei, 1980
Phymaturus manuelae Scolaro & Ibargüengoytía, 2008
Phymaturus nevadoi Cei & Roig, 1975
Phymaturus palluma (Bell, 1843)
Phymaturus patagonicus Koslowsky, 1898
Phymaturus payuniae Cei & Castro, 1973
Phymaturus punae Cei, Etheridge & Videla, 1983
Phymaturus querque Lobo, Abdala & Valdecantos, 2010
Phymaturus roigorum Lobo & Abdala, 2007
Phymaturus sinervoi Scolaro, Mendez de la Cruz & Ibargüengoytía, 2012
Phymaturus sitesi Avila, Pérez, Pérez & Morando, 2011
Phymaturus somuncurensis Cei & Castro, 1973
Phymaturus spectabilis Lobo & Quinteros, 2005
Phymaturus spurcus Barbour, 1921
Phymaturus tenebrosus Lobo & Quinteros, 2005
Phymaturus verdugo Cei & Videla, 2003
Phymaturus videlai Scolaro & Pincheira-Donoso, 2010
Phymaturus zapalensis Cei & Castro, 1973

Phyllodactylidae Gamble *et al.* 2008

Homonota (Gray, 1845)
Homonota andicola Cei, 1978
Homonota borellii (Peracca, 1897)
Homonota darwinii darwinii Boulenger, 1885
Homonota darwinii macrocephala Cei, 1978
Homonota fasciata (Duméril & Bibron, 1836)
Homonota underwoodi Kluge, 1964
Homonota whitii Boulenger, 1885
Homonota williamsii Avila, Pérez & Morando, 2012
Phyllopezus Peters, 1877
Phyllopezus pollicaris przewalskyi (Koslowsky, 1895)

Amphisbaenidae Gray, 1825

Amphisbaena Linnaeus, 1758
Amphisbaena angustifrons Cope, 1861
Amphisbaena bolivica Mertens 1929
Amphisbaena heterozonata Burmeister, 1861
Amphisbaena hiata Montero & Céspedez (2002)
Amphisbaena mertensii Strauch, 1881

Amphisbaena plumbea Gray, 1872
Amphisbaena prunicolor (Cope, 1885)
Anops Bell, 1833
Anops kingi Bell, 1833
Cercolophia Vanzolini, 1992
Cercolophia borelli (Peracca, 1897)
Leposternon Wagler, 1824
Leposternon microcephalum Wagler, 1824

Gymnophthalmidae Merren 1820

Cercosaura (Wagler, 1830)
Cercosaura ocellata Wagler, 1830
Cercosaura parkeri (Ruibal, 1952)
Cercosaura schreibersii schreibersii Wiegmann, 1834
Cercosaura steyeri (Tedesco, 1998)
Opipeuter Uzzell, 1969
Opipeuter xestus Uzzell, 1969
Vanzosaura Rodriguez, 1991
Vanzosaura rubricauda (Boulenger, 1902)

Teiidae Gray, 1827

Ameiva (Mayer, 1795)
Ameiva ameiva ameiva Linnaeus, 1758
Cnemidophorus (Wagler, 1830)
Cnemidophorus abalosi Cabrera, 2012
Cnemidophorus lacertoides Duméril & Bibron, 1839)
Cnemidophorus leachei Peracca, 1897
Cnemidophorus longicaudus (Bell, 1843)
Cnemidophorus serranus Cei & Martori, 1991
Cnemidophorus tergolaevigatus Cabrera, 2004
Kentropyx (Spix, 1825)
Kentropix lagartija Gallardo, 1962
Kentropix viridistriga (Boulenger, 1894)
Teius Merren, 1820
Teius oculatus (D´Orbigny & Bibron, 1837)
Teius suquiensis Avila & Martori, 1991
Teius teyou (Daudin, 1802)
Tupinambis (Daudin, 1802)
Tupinambis merianae (Duméril & Bibron, 1839)
Tupinambis rufescens (Günther, 1871)

Mabuyidae Mittleman, 1952

Aspronema Hedges & Conn, 2012
Aspronema dorsivittatum (Cope, 1862)
Notomabuya Hedges & Conn, 2012
Notomabuya frenata (Cope, 1862)

Anguidae Gray, 1825

Ophiodes Wagler, 1828
Ophiodes intermedius Boulenger, 1894
Ophiodes vertebralis (Bocourt, 1881)
Ophiodes fragilis Peters, 1877

Taxonomic richness

We recorded a total of 261 species, belonging to 10 families, and 27 genera of amphisbaenians and lizards in Argentina (Checklist and Table 1). Avila *et al*. (2000) listed 167 species, belonging to 8 families and 26 genera. Changes in number of families are related to nomenclatural rearragements, split of Polychrotidae in Polychrotidae and Leiosauridae (Frost *et al*. 2001) and split of Tropiduridae in Liolaemidae (or Liolaemini) and Tropiduridae (Frost & Etheridge 1989, Frost *et al*. 2001); all *Pantodactylus* species found in Argentina are considered as members of *Cercosaura* (Doan 2003). Recently, *Mabuya* species from Argentina were allocated to two new genera, *Aspronema* and *Notomabuya* (Hedges & Conn 2012)

The family Liolaemidae or the rank free clade Liolamini (our preferred option) contains almost 75% of the lizard species of Argentina, with 190 species (73 %), including two genera, *Liolaemus* with 156 species (60 %), and *Phymaturus* with 34 species (13.0 %). All other genera have fewer than 10 species. Comparisons between the previous checklist (Avila *et al*. 2000) and this work are presented in Table 2.

TABLE 1. Species of lizards and amphisbaenians by province.

Genus	Avila *et al*. 2000	This work	Variation
Polychrus	1	1	0
Anisolepis	3	2	-1
Urostrophus	1	1	0
Diplolaemus	3	4	+ 1
Pristidactylus	4	6	+ 2
Leiosaurus	3	4	+ 1
Stenocercus	6	5	-1
Tropidurus	4	4	0
Liolaemus	90	156	+ 66
Phymaturus	10	34	+ 24
Homonota	7	8	+ 1
Phyllopezus	1	1	0
Amphisbaena	7	7	0
Anops	1	1	0
Cercolophia	1	1	0
Leposternum	1	1	0
Cercosaura	1	4	+ 3
Opipeuter	1	1	0
Vanzosaura	1	1	0
Ameiva	1	1	0
Cnemidophorus	5	6	+ 1
Kentropyx	2	2	0
Teius	3	3	0
Tupinambis	2	2	0
Mabuya (Aspronema + Notomabuya)	2	2 (1+1)	0
Ophiodes	3	3	0

TABLE 2. Number of lizard species by genera and variation between previous checklist by Avila *et al*. (2000) and this work. Right column show the variation in species number in the last 12 years.

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
Polychrus																								
P. acutirostris				X					X	X							X							
Anisolepis																								
A. grillii														X										
A. longicauda				X			X														?			
Urostrophus																								
U. gallardoi				X		X					X	X		X			X		X		X	X		X
Diplolaemus																								
D. bibronii					X															X				
D. darwinii					X											X				X				
D. leopardinus													X											
D. sexcinctus	*				X										X	X								
Pristidactylus																								
P. achalensis						X													X					
P. araucanus													X		X									
P. casuhatiensis		X																						
P. fasciatus		X									X	X	X		X	X		X						
P. nigroiugulus	*				X											X								
P. scapulatus													X					X						
Leiosaurus																								
L. bellii					X						X		X		X	X				X				

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. catamarcensis			X								X	X	X					X						
L. jaguaris	*											X						X						
L. paronae			X			X					X	X	X					X	X			X		
Stenocercus																								
S. caducus										X							X							
S. doellojuradoi			X			X						X						X	X			X		
S. marmoratus																	X							
S. pectinatus		X				X					X					X			X		X	X		X
S. roseiventris										X							X							
Tropidurus																								
T. etheridgei			X	X		X			X			X					X					X		X
T. melanopleurus																	X							
T. spinulosus				X		X			X			X					X				X	X		
T. torquatus				X			X	X	X					X							?			
Liolaemus																								
L. abaucan			X																					
L. abdalai	*														X									
L. albiceps																	X							
L. andinus			X																					
L. anomalus												?	X					X						
L. antumalguen	*														X									

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. araucaniensis															?									
L. archeforus																				X				
L. austromendocinus											X		X		X									
L. avilae	*																			X				
L. azarai	*						X																	
L. baguali																				X				
L. bibronii					X						X		X		X	X		X		X				
L. bitaeniatus			X							X							X							X
L. boulengeri					X											X				X				
L. buergeri													X		X									
L. burmeisteri															X									
L. calchaqui																								X
L. camarones	*				X																			
L. canqueli					X																			
L. caparensis	*																			X				
L. capillitas			X																					
L. casamiquelai	*															X								
L. cazianiae	*																X							
L. ceii					?										X									
L. chacabucoense	*																			X				
L. chacoensis			X	X		X			X			X					X	X	X			X		X

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. chaltin	*									X														
L. chehuachekenk	*				X																			
L. chiliensis																X								
L. chillanensis															?									
L. chlorostictus										X														
L. choique	*												X											
L. cinereus	*																	X						
L. coeruleus															X									
L. crepuscularis	*		X																					
L. cuyanus			X								X	X	X		X			X						
L. cuyumhue	*														X									
L. cyaneinotatus	*														X									
L. cyanogaster															X									
L. darwinii		X	X		X	X					X	X	X		X	X		X	X			X		
L. diaguita	*																X							
L. dicktracyi	*											X												
L. ditadai			?			X																X		
L. donosobarrosi													X		X									
L. dorbignyi			X																					
L. duellmani													X											
L. dumerili	*															X								

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. eleodori																		X						
L. elongatus					X										X	X								
L. escarchadosi																				X				
L. espinozai	*		X																					
L. exploratorum																				X				
L. famatinae												X												
L. fitzgeraldi													X					X						
L. fitzingerii					X															X				
L. flavipiceus	*												X											
L. gallardoi																				X				
L. goetschi															X	X								
L. gracielae	*											X												
L. gracilis		X			X						X	X	X		X	X		X	X					
L. gravenhorstii													X					X						
L. griseus																								X
L. grosseorum	*										X		X		X	X								
L. gununakuna	*														X	X								
L. halonastes	*																X							
L. hatcheri																				X				
L. heliodermis	*																							X
L. hermannunezi															?									

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. huacahuasicus			X																					X
L. huayra	*																							X
L. inacayali	*															X								
L. inti	*																X							
L. irregularis										X							X							
L. josei	*										X		X											
L. kingii					X															X				
L. kolengh	*																			X				
L. koslowskyi			X									X												
L. kriegi					X										X	X								
L. laurenti			X									X	X					X						
L. lavillai	*																X							
L. lemniscatus															X									
L. lentus											X					X			X					
L. lineomaculatus					X										X	X				X				
L. loboi	*														X	X								
L. magellanicus																				X			X	
L. mapuche	*														X									
L. martorii	*															X								
L. melanops					X											X								
L. montanus			X																					

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. montanezi	*																	X						
L. morandae	*				X															X				
L. morenoi	*														X	X								
L. multicolor										X							X							
L. multimaculatus		X														X								
L. neuquensis															X									
L. nigriceps										X							X							
L. olongasta												X	X					X						
L. orientalis										X														
L. orko	*		X																					
L. ornatus										X							X							
L. pagaburoi			?																					X
L. parvus	*											X	X					X						
L. petrophilus					X											X								
L. pictus argentinus					X										X	X				?				
L. poecilochromus			X																					
L. pseudoanomalus			X									X						X						
L. puelche	*												X											
L. pulcherrimus										X														
L. puna	*		X							X							X							

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. punmahuida	*														X									
L. puritamensis										X														
L. purul	*														X									
L. pyriphlogos										X														
L. quilmes			X														X							X
L. rabinoi													X											
L. ramirezae			X														X							X
L. riojanus												X						X						
L. robertmertensi			X									X												
L. rothi					X										X	X								
L. ruibali													X					X						
L. sagei	*														X									
L. salinicola			X																					
L. sanjuanensis																		X						
L. sarmientoi																				X				
L. saxatilis						X													X		?			
L. scapularis			X														X							X
L. scolaroi	*																			X				
L. scrocchii	*									X							X							
L. senguer	*				X															X				
L. shehuen	*				X																			

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. shitan	*															X								
L. silvanae																				X				
L. sitesi															X									
L. smaug	*												X											
L. somuncurae				X												X								
L. talampaya	*											X												
L. tandiliensis	*	X																						
L. tari																				X				
L. tehuelche	*															X								
L. telsen					X											X								
L. tenuis tenuis															X									
L. thermarum													X											
L. tregenzai	*														X									
L. tristis																				X				
L. tromen	*														X									
L. tulkas	*		X																					
L. umbrifer			X																					
L. uptoni	*				X																			
L. uspallatensis													X					X						
L. vallecurensis																		X						
L. vulcanus	*		X																					

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
L. wiegmannii		X	X			X		X		X	X		X			X	X	X	X		X			X
L. xanthoviridis					X																			
L. yanalcu	*																X							
L. zullyae																				X				
Phymaturus																								
P. agilis	*															X								
P. antofagastensis			X																					
P. calcogaster	*				X																			
P. castillensis	*				X																			
P. ceii	*															X								
P. delheyi	*														X									
P. denotatus	*		X																					
P. desuetus	*															X								
P. dorsimaculatus	*														X									
P. etheridgei	*															X								
P. excelsus	*															X								
P. extrilidus	*																	X						
P. felixi	*				X																			
P. gynechlomus	*												X											
P. indistinctus					X																			
P. laurenti	*		X																					

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
P. mallimaccii												X												
P. manuelae	*															X								
P. nevadoi													X											
P. palluma													X					X						
P. patagonicus					X																			
P. payuniae													X											
P. punae			X									X						X						
P. querque	*														X									
P. roigorum													X		X									
P. sinervoi	*															X								
P. sitesi	*														X									
P. somuncurensis					X											X								
P. spectabilis	*															X								
P. spurcus																X								
P. tenebrosus	*															X								
P. verdugo													X		X									
P. videlai	*				X																			
P. zapalensis															X									
Homonota																								
H. andicola			X									X	X					X						
H. borelli		X	X			X						X	X				X	X	X		X	X		X

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
H. darwini arwini					X						X		X		X	X				X				
H. darwini macrocephala																	X							
H. fasciata			X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X
H. underwoodi			X								X	X	X		X	X		X	X					
H. whitii			?			X						?							X			X		
H. williamsii	*	X																						
Phyllopezus																								
P. pollicaris przewalskyi				X					X		?						X					X		
Amphisbaena																								
A. angustifrons		X	X	X		X		X		X	X			X			X		X		X	X		X
A. bolivica			X	X		X			X	X		X					X	?			X	X		X
A. heterozonata		X	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X			X		X		X	X		X
A. hiata	*						X		X															
A. mertensii				X			X		X					X										
A. plumbea			X		X						X	X	X		X	X		X	X				X	
A. prunicolor							X							X										
Anops																								
A. kingi		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X		X		X	X		X
Cercolophia																								
C. borelli																	X							X

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TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
Leposternon																								
L. microcephalum				X			X	X	X					X			X				X	X		
Cercosaura																								
C. ocellata							X																	
C. parkeri			X							X							X					X		X
C. screibersii schreibersii		X		X		X	X	X	X		X			X					X		X	X		
C. steyeri							X																	
Opipeuter																								
O. xestus										X							X							
Vanzosaura																								
V. rubricauda			X	X		X			X			X					X				X	X		X
Ameiva																								
A. ameiva ameiva				X				X	X	?							X				?	X		X
Cnemidophorus																								
C. abalosi	*		X	X			X		X			X					X					X		?
C. lacertoides		X				X	X	X			?													
C. leachei						X				X							X							
C. longicauda		X			X	X					X	X	X		X	X		X	X					
C. serranus						X													X			X		
C. tergolaevigatus	*		X									X					X					?		X

..... *continued on the next page*

TABLE 2. (Continued)

Species	Described after Avila *et al.* (2000)	Buenos Aires	Catamarca	Chaco	Chubut	Córdoba	Corrientes	Entre Ríos	Formosa	Jujuy	La Pampa	La Rioja	Mendoza	Misiones	Neuquén	Río Negro	Salta	San Juan	San Luis	Santa Cruz	Santa Fé	Santiago del Estero	Tierra del Fuego	Tucuman
Kentropyx																								
K. lagartija				×																		×		×
K. viridistriga				×			×		×												×			
Teius																								
T. oculatus		×		×		×	×	×	×	×	×		×	×		?	×	×	×		×	×		×
T. suquiensis						×													×		×			
T. teyou			×	×		×			×	×		×	×				×	×	×		×	×		×
Tupinambis																								
T. merianae		×		×		×	×	×	×		?			×				×	×		×	×		
T. rufescens			×	×		×			×	×	×	×	×			×	×	×	×		×	×		×
Aspronema																								
A. dorsivittatum		×		×		×	×	×	×				×	×			×	?	×		×	×		×
Notomabuya																								
N. frenata				×		×	×	×	×	×		?		×			×				×	×		×
Ophiodes																								
O. intermedius		×	×	×		×	×	×	×	×	×			×			×		×		×	×		×
O. vertebralis		×				×	×		×		×										×	×		
O. fragilis							×	×						×										

Undescribed species

Morando *et* a*l*. (2003) using molecular data (mtDNA sequences) estimated that with future detailed studies, the total number of *Liolaemus* species could be around 320 (at that time there were 174 described species and the actual total number now is +238). Further, other detailed studies hypothesized several candidate species for some particular clades within this genus (e.g. Morando *et al*. 2004, 2007; Breitman *et al*. 2011a, 2012); thus most certainly the number new species of *Liolaemus* will continue to increase (Lobo *et al*. 2010). A similar situation occurs with the sister genus *Phymaturus*, for which morphological (Lobo *et al*. 2012d) and molecular studies (Morando *et al*. 2012) have suggested a total of 31 new candidate species. Other genera like *Diplolaemus* and *Homonota* are being intensively studied, and preliminary data indicate that they harbor unknown diversity at the species level (Morando *et al*., unpublished). Furthermore, to our knowledge, at least 20 new species of Argentinean lizards are currently being described by various authors. This scenario implies that this checklist is going to continue to be dynamic in the near future.

Introduced (non-native) species

Although we are not including introduced species in our checklist, we want to highlight the point that two species of lizards have been introduced and are now established in Argentina. *Hemidactylus mabouia* is known from Buenos Aires (Williams 1988), Chaco (Federico & Cacivio 2000), Corrientes (Álvarez *et al.* 2002) and Misiones (Genise & Montanelli 1991; Baldo *et al.* 2008) provinces, and *Tarentola mauritanica* from Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires (Williams 1988) and Tucumán province (Cabrera & Guerra 2006). The impact of these introductions is unknown, but apparently until now, introduced species are restricted to urbanized zones.

Comments about some species status and their presence in Argentina

***Amphisbaena angustifrons* Cope, 1861**

This species was included as *Amphisbaena angustifrons angustifrons* in Avila *et al*. (2000) and elevated to full species status by Gans (2005) without any explicit study.

***Amphisbaena plumbea* Gray, 1872**

This species was included as *Amphisbaena angustifrons plumbea* in Avila *et al*. (2000) and elevated to full species status by Gans (2005) without any explicit study.

***Amphisbaena heterozonata* Burmeister, 1861**

This species was included as *Amphisbaena darwinii* spp. by Avila *et al*. (2000) and as *Amphisbaena darwinii heterozonata* by Montero (1996); a few years later Gans (2005) considered it a full species as *Amphisbaena heterozonata* without any justification. Identification of individuals of some regions is difficult (Montero 1996), and using their geographic distributions alone is not accurate enough to make taxonomic decisions; thus we do not include these species by province in our checklist. Probably, Argentinean amphisbaenians need more detailed studies incorporating new methodological (and theoretical) approaches to quantify species limits and phylogenetic relationships.

***Anisolepis undulatus* (Wiegmann, 1834).**

Anisolepis undulatus was first cited as *A. bruchi* from Punta Lara, on the south bank of the Rio de La Plata in northeastern Buenos Aires Province (Koslowsky 1895). Since then, no specimens have been collected again in Argentina (Etheridge & Williams 1991). This species, as others in this group, is very difficult to find (arboreal habits, cryptic coloration and inconspicuous behavior) and its presence can remain unnoticed, even for a skilled herpetologist. Some areas, including poorly surveyed regions along the Parana and Uruguay rivers, could maintain some remnant populations of this species, because they have similar habitats in Uruguay. But since more than hundred years has passed since its citation, we prefer to delete this species from the checklist.

***Cercolophia borelli* (Peracca, 1897)**

The presence of this species for Argentina in based on two specimens (see Montero 1996). We maintain its presence in Argentina given that the specimens cited from Argentina apparently were competently identified (Montero 1996), and taking into consideration the difficulty of finding amphisbaenas in the field.

***Cercosaura ocellata* (Ruibal, 1952).**

Presence of this species for Argentina is based on the collection of one specimen in northern Corrientes Province (Tedesco & Aguirre 1998). The specimen was collected near the coast of Parana River and could have been transported from northern Parana River Basin; thus more specimens should be collected to confirm the presence of this species in Argentina.

***Cercosaura steyeri* (Tedesco, 1998).**

This species was described based on only one specimen, so more studies are to evaluate the taxonomic (= distributional) status of this species.

***Homonota darwinii macrocephala* (Cei, 1978b).**

Described for a locality in the northernmost area of Argentina (Cei 1978), very far away from Patagonia, the current geographic distribution of *Homonota darwinii*; thus the taxonomic status of this subspecies must be reviewed.

***Liolaemus anomalus* Koslowsky, 1896.**

Described for La Rioja province, this species has not been found again in this province. It is a species very difficult to find, with cryptic coloration and particular behavior, and probably very low population density. In 1983, Cei described a subspecies, *Liolaemus anomalus ditadai*, which was recently elevated to the status of species by Abdala (2007a), and extended its geographic range to the southeastern corner of Santiago del Estero Province. As a result of this last nomenclatural arrangement, the distribution of *L. anomalus* must be restricted to desert lowlands of southern San Juan and northern Mendoza Provinces, and its presence in La Rioja is doubtful. A recent thesis by Juarez Heredia (2011) review the status of the *Liolaemus anomalus* group and proposed several new species.

***Liolaemus araucaniensis* Müller & Hellmich, 1932**

The presence of this species in Argentina was cited by Scolaro (2006) but without mention of any voucher specimen and no specimens were available in any of the reviewed collections. Scolaro (personal communication) confirmed the existence of one specimen from western Neuquén in his personal collection and others from Batea Mahuida Volcano in Chilean collections. For that reason we included this species in the Argentinean herpetofauna. A photograph of a specimen collected in western Neuquen is given in Figure 2 (J.A. Scolaro herpetological collection). Recently, we found some samples identified as *Liolaemus araucaniensis* in the LJAMM-CNP collection from Malleo River, in northern Lanin National Park (LJAMM-CNP 907-913).

***Liolaemus chacabucoense* Nuñez & Scolaro, 2009**

This species was recently described from a Chilean locality very close to the Argentinean border (Nuñez & Scolaro, 2009) and was cited for Argentina by Breitman *et al*. (2011); some populations of the Argentina-Chile border could be related to this species but a more comprehensive study is in preparation (Breitman *et al*. unpublished data).

***Liolaemus chillanensis* Müller & Hellmich, 1932**

We have evidence of the presence of this species in Argentina based only on photographic records taken in northwestern Neuquén province (Figure 2). Presence must be confirmed with vouchered specimens to maintain the presence of this species in Argentina. *Liolaemus* species of the *monticola* group are probably present in the high mountains of Neuquén Province, but until the conclusion of a revisionary study of this group, we are not including any species in our checklist (Medina, PhD thesis in progress).

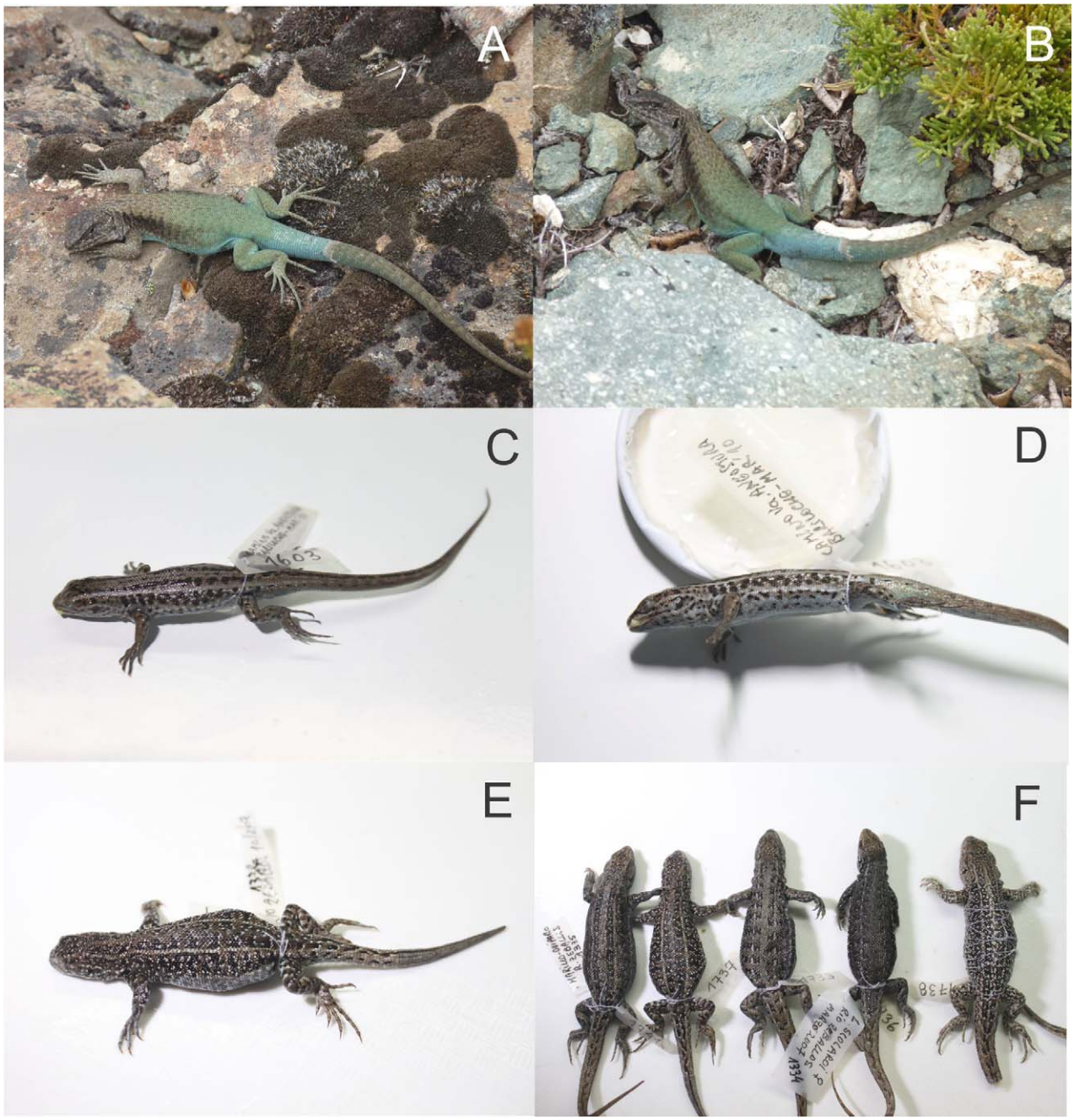

FIGURE 2. Some species with marginal distribution in Argentina. A/B: *Liolaemus chillanensis* from upper mountains of western Neuquén; C/D: *Liolaemus araucaniensis* from "Camino a La Angostura, Bariloche, Neuquén"; E/F: *Liolaemus scolaroi* from Río Ceballos valley, northwestern Santa Cruz Province, Argentina.

***Liolaemus chlorostictus* Laurent, 1991.**

Previously included in Avila *et al*. (2000) as *Liolaemus orientalis chlorostictus*, this was considered as a valid full species without any explanation by Díaz Gómez (2007).

***Liolaemus exploratorum* Cei & Williams, 1984.**

Described from museum material only, this species was never found in the wild (Cei & Williams 1984, Fig. 1). A recent summary about this species was made by Williams (2003) and Ferraro and Williams (2006), and we maintain it for the Argentinean herpetofauna until more surveys on its broad type locality can confirm its status. *Liolaemus exploratorum* is a morphologically similar to some populations of *Liolaemus bibronii*, a complex of several still undescribed species (Martínez 2012), and in the type locality region we only collected specimens of the nominal species.

Liolaemus constanzae Donoso-Barros, 1961 was cited by Cei (1993) for Socompa, Salta Province, in northwestern Argentina, but we were unable to find any reliable bibliographic citation or reference material collected in argentinean territory.

Liolaemus gravenhorsti (Gray, 1845) was cited from Mendoza province in 1974 by Cei and Roig (1974) based on two specimens collected at Valle Hermoso, Malargüe Department. But according to Cei and Videla (2001) only one specimen remains in collection. In a recent review of *Liolaemus* in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Univ. California-Berkeley, we found two additional specimens (MVZ 247047/8) from the same locality that could be refereable to *L. gravenhorsti.* Cei and Videla (2001) cited the species for San Juan province, using two lizards (a male and a juvenile) collected by botanists in 1990. Collection locality is in the "altiplanicies de Calingasta, cerca del Rio Manantiales, (San Juan, 3300 m s.m., 31º 20' S 69º 30' W)", a place very close to some collection sites for *L. fitzgeraldi* (Avila 2004), and Cei and Videla (2001) mention some differences with the samples from Mendoza. The altitude mentioned by Cei and Videla is not consistent with the elevation found using Google Earth for those geographic coordinates. Until more conclusive evidence is available about the identity of these specimens from San Juan, we maintain the distribution of *L. gravenhorsti* for both provinces.

***Liolaemus hermannunezi* Pincheira-Donoso, Scolaro & Schulte, 2007.**

Described by Pincheira-Donoso *et al.* (2007) for Chile, this species was cited by Abdala & Quinteros (2007) for the Argentinean territory, but this population was recently described as *Liolaemus tromen* by Abdala *et al.* (2012a). We keep this species as part of the Argentinean herpetofauna because the typical habitat where the species is found in Chile extends to some areas of Neuquén province, and some still unstudied populations found in Minas and Chos Malal departments can be considered as *L. hermannunezi* (voucher specimens are deposited in LJAMM-CNP collection).

***Liolaemus lemniscatus* (Gravenhorst, 1838)**

This species was recently excluded by Quinteros (2012) from Argentina. This author suggests that with the recognition of *Liolaemus abdalai*, all populations of *L. lemniscatus* will be restricted to localities of central Chile. However until more evidence is found, we prefer to maintain the inclusion of this species in Argentina.

***Liolaemus lentus* Gallardo, 1964**

This species was originally described by Gallardo (1966) for Altos de Cochico, western La Pampa Province. It was synonymized with *Phrynosaura werneri* by Donoso Barros (1969), and ten years later, Cei (1979) synonymized *P. werneri* with *L. anomalus* (and therefore *L. lentus* with *L. anomalus*), Recently *L. lentus* was elevated to species status by Abdala (2007a); it is poorly known and has characteristics and behavior similar to *Liolaemus anomalus*. It is distributed in La Pampa and San Luis provinces (Abdala 2007a, Pérez & Avila 2011).

***Liolaemus pictus argentinus* Müller & Hellmich, 1939.**

Two subspecies were cited in the literature for the Argentinean territory, *L. pictus pictus* and *L. pictus argentinus* (Cei & Williams 1984), but only the last one is probably present (see Avila *et al*. 2006c for a small review). More field surveys are needed to confirm the presence of *L. pictus pictus* in Argentina and the distribution of southern populations. In fact, the presence of *Liolaemus pictus pictus* is based on old material collected in a locality without the typical habitat for the species (Cei & Williams 1984), and the presence of this species as far as Santa Cruz Province has not yet been confirmed.

***Liolaemus puritamensis* Nuñez & Fox, 1989**

Cited for Argentina by Quinteros and Abdala (2007) from Jujuy province, but the taxonomic status of this species remains unclear. It was described by Nuñez and Fox (1989), synonymized with *L. dorbignyi* by Nuñez and Jaksic **(**1992), and revalidated again by Pincheira-Donoso and Nuñez (2005).

***Liolaemus rabinoi* (Cei, 1974)**

This species was for a long time considered as extinct because it has not been collected since its original description by Cei (1974); however, this species was recently found in a dune area near the type locality (Abdala, pers. comm.).

***Liolaemus scolaroi* Pincheira-Donoso & Nuñez, 2005**

The presence of this species in Argentina was cited by Scolaro (2006), but without mention of any voucher specimen and no specimen was available in any of the reviewed collections. Scolaro confirmed that several specimens collected from Rio Ceballos (Santa Cruz province), near the type locality, are deposited in his personal collection (Scolaro, personal communication; see Fig. 2). For that reason we included the species in the Argentinean herpetofauna.

***Phymaturus agilis* Scolaro, Ibargüengoytía & Pincheira-Donoso, 2008.**

Recently this species was considered as a synonym of *Phymaturus spectabilis*, based on the finding of sympatric and apparently interbreeding individuals (Lobo *et al*. 2012a). This was taken as evidence of a lack of reproductive isolation between "the *P.* «*agilis*» morph and *P. spectabilis*", as well as the lack of significant differences in meristic and morphometrics characters between these "morphs". Its taxonomic status must be evaluated with further studies using different lines of evidence.

***Ophiodes fragilis* Peters, 1877**

Argentinean populations of this species were named as *Ophiodes yacupoi* Gallardo, 1966 for a long time, but new evidence (Martins 1998) suggests that this species must be named as *O. fragilis.*

***Phymaturus desuetus* Scolaro & Tappari, 2009.**

This species was described based on one individual from a region with an apparently relatively high number of species of *Phymaturus*, but current data are insufficient to verify species boundaries vs the presence of one geographically structured species with extensive polymorphisms. Its taxonomic status must be evaluated with further studies.

***Phymaturus dorsimaculatus* Lobo & Quinteros, 2005.**

This species was described based on a single female, and was considered as a synonym of *Phymaturus vociferator* by Pincheira-Donoso *et al.* (2008), mainly because this population is close to the type locality of *P. dorsimaculatus* in a very similar environment. No intermediate populations were found during our field work along the area that separates both localities, and its taxonomic status must be evaluated with further studies.

***Phymaturus gynechlomus* Corbalán, Scolaro, & Debandi, 2009**

Lobo *et al.* (2010b) suggested that this species is a junior synonym of *Phymaturus palluma*, but a detailed study is still absent, thus further studies must be done to confirm its taxonomic status.

***Phymaturus palluma* (Bell, 1843).**

Scolaro (2010) recently redescribed the neotype of *Phymaturus palluma*, suggesting the "Uspallata-Paramillos" site as type locality and rejected the proposed synonym of *P. gynechlomus* with *P. palluma* by Lobo *et al*. (2010a).

***Stenocercus azureus* (Müller, 1880).**

The presence of this species in Argentina is poorly documented. According to Cei (1986) it was cited by Koslowsky for Misiones Province, but we lack any reliable information about its presence in Argentinean territory. Since the typical habitat of this species in Uruguay and Brazil is found in adjacent areas in Argentina, it is very probable than in the future we can include it again in the Argentinean herpetofauna, but its presence must be confirmed with voucher specimens. In the last revision of the genus by Torres-Carvajal (2007), he did not mention the species for Argentina and all reviewed localities are distant from the Argentinean border.

***Tropidurus torquatus* (Wied-Neuwied, 1820).** A recent field guide did not include the species in Misiones province (Lopez & Prado 2012).

The taxonomic status of the Argentinean populations currently allocated to *Tropidurus torquatus* is still to be studied, but we maintain the name *Tropidurus torquatus catalanensis* to avoid more nomenclatural confusions, despite the suggestion of Cei (1993) to recognize the Argentinian populations as *Tropidurus torquatus*. As the type locality of *Tropidurus torquatus* is in the eastern region of Brazil (Trefaut Rodriguez 1987), it is probable that the Argentinean populations could be a different species.

Discusion and conclusions

Squamates are the most speciose clade of reptiles. They comprise more than 9,187 species, and excluding snakes, there are approximately 5,634 species of lizards and 181 amphisbaenians; which leave these groups with the greatest number of extant species among living reptile groups (Uetz 2012, Vitt & Caldwell, 2009). Lizard fauna of Argentina includes 261 species, 92 more than our previous list of Avila *et al*. (2000), but this number will be increased in the next few months because several descriptions of new species of *Liolaemus*, *Homonota*, and *Phymaturus* are being published. This number is relatively high in comparison with other countries of South America like Brazil, which is a megadiverse country, with a number of lizards plus amphisbaenians of 315 in late 2011 (Sociedade Brasileira de Herpetologia, 2012) and represent almost 5.59 % of global diversity. Following this comparison, there are 261 species of lizard species in Argentina and 248 in Brazil, a striking result for a country three times smaller in geographic extension. This could be an artifact of our present knowledge, since the species diversity of Brazil is still high, but it seems that the tendency in Argentina will follow that of previous years, and more species are being discovered with more intense field sampling and detailed systematic studies. On the other side, some species have been suggested as synonyms of other species, like *Phymaturus agilis*, *P. gynechlomus*, and *P. dorsimaculatus* (Pincheira-Donoso *et al*. 2008, Lobo *et al*. 2010a, Lobo *et al*. 2012a), and probably some species of *Liolaemus* can also be synonimized. The high number of lizard's species in Argentina is mainly attributed to the high number of species of the *Liolaemus* and *Phymaturus* genera. Intensive field trips were carried out in the last 10 years and a significant number of new species were discovered and described. In contrast, other genera are still poorly studied and relatively poorly known, like *Ophiodes*, *Aspronema*, *Notomabuya*, *Tropidurus*, *Cnemidophorus*, *Kentropyx*, all genera belong to Gymnophthalmidae family , or some species of Leiosaurae. Some of the reasons for this situation could be attributed to the marginal distribution of some species, but in other cases the causes are more complex, from general lack of support for basic taxonomy studies, abscense of adequate support for field or museum studies, persistence of old research methodology and difficulties associated to adopt new analitical techniques, little interest in less diversed or marginal groups, etc. This tendecy seems to be under change for some cases with the support of some related areas (e.g. the iBOL-Argentina fund, National System of Biological Data-SNDB), but a clear support policy towards the formation of skilly taxonomists and support their jobs is still, in general, absent. Some species of these groups are distributed in regions that are suffering heavy environmental modifications as a result of the extension of crops, mainly soy. Huge areas of Chaco, Córdoba, Formosa, La Pampa, Santa Fe Santiago del Estero, and Salta were completely deforested in the last years, the tendency is not changing, and with very small exceptions, nobody knows the lizard diversity of those areas. In the majority of those provinces, only preliminary, old or incomplete reports on lizards were made. Some data from these regions were based on material collected in late XIX or early XX centuries, species identifications were erroneous, material is not available anymore, or localities were wrong, leaving the lizard fauna knowledge of some places unknown. Some recent studies show that the lizard diversity of Argentina is expected to increase at least in some genera, especially in *Liolaemus* and *Phymaturus*, probably at the same level as during the last 10 years (e.g. Morando *et al*. 2003, Avila *et al*. 2006b, Abdala *et al*. 2007, Breitman *et al*. 2011c).

As we stated before, checklists are dynamic and change with time. We think that an updated general checklist of argentinean lizards was necesary at this time. They are useful for systematic and taxonomic, ecological or basic studies of the biology of the species, but above all they serve as a basic framework for conservation, biogeography or general management of the fauna.

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